

A/B, 3, 2/115

To: Files

Subject: SI and H Experimentation, 19 September 1951
(Operations Room)

On Wednesday, 19 September 1951, [redacted] and the writer conducted SI and H experiments between 6:00 PM and 9:00 PM with [redacted] and [redacted] as subjects.

Since [redacted] and [redacted] were working for the third time only, it was decided to continue the general "relaxing" experiments before other efforts of a more complex nature were begun.

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The first experiment was a slow relaxing experiment designed to acquaint [redacted] and [redacted] with the general technique of relaxing. In this case, both [redacted] and [redacted] attained a light degree of hypnotic sleep with [redacted] obviously going deeper than [redacted].

The second experiment was a repetition of the first experiment with both subjects again attaining a light hypnotic trance state. At the conclusion, both subjects were given a post H suggestion that when the writer tapped on the arm of the chair in which he was sitting with a pencil, both subjects would immediately revert into their former sleep state. After awakening the subjects with the usual 12345 method and after some discussion, the writer tapped on the arm of his chair three times with a pencil and [redacted] appeared to go to sleep. However, [redacted], who was sitting up with her arms on her knees and with one arm supporting her head, remained in a motionless state with her eyes open. Since the writer could not determine whether [redacted] had gone into a sleep state or not, he proceeded to sit and watch her for three or four minutes. During this period, [redacted] did not move and her expression did not change. Thereafter, the writer placed his fingers on the bridge of [redacted]'s nose and told her to close her eyes and lean back on the sofa and go to sleep, which [redacted] did. After the girls were awakened from this experiment, [redacted] stated that when the writer rapped three times for the post H suggestion, she found herself unable to move either way and had a sensation of going to sleep with her eyes open and as far as she was able to tell, she had entered into a trance state while sitting erect with her eyes open. This opinion is supported by [redacted] and the writer.

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After a brief discussion, each girl was then induced into a sleep state while reclining on the couch using the "fixation" technique. In each case, the subject, after being placed in as deep a state as possible, was told to sit up and then stand up and while standing to extend both arms in a rigid manner and then to seat themselves again. All of this was gone with their eyes closed and in a sleep state. Thereafter, each subject was told to open their eyes and remain deep asleep, which both subjects did. Each subject tried this experiment individually with the other subject as an observer. Both were returned to the awake state by the usual 12345 method.

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In connection with the above experiment, it is the belief of [redacted] and the writer that [redacted] reached a reasonably deep state and carried on a true hypnotic performance. However, in the case of [redacted], [redacted] and the writer are agreed that [redacted] was not a true hypnotic performance, but quite possibly to a certain extent one of "play acting". Although [redacted] performed all of the tests in the same way as did [redacted], it was nevertheless felt that her reactions were not those of a totally hypnotic type, although in spots it appeared that [redacted] was not "play acting", but was in fact in a light hypnotic state.

After this experiment, a final experiment was undertaken again using the standard technique and both girls were instructed to go to sleep and were told by [redacted], who was conducting the experiment, that when he touched his tie as a post H command, they would go to sleep and both girls complied. As noted above, [redacted] work seemed perfectly genuine and [redacted] was still of a dubious quality.

In connection with the above comments concerning [redacted] and [redacted] work, [redacted] and the writer feel that [redacted] work is of a genuine nature, but [redacted] is partially "play acting". Hence, at the next experimental meeting, tests will be run to see if [redacted] work is of a genuine nature.